

S-466
James Moore House
Upper Hill
Private

c. 1890-1900

Distinctive to the James Moore house, a two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame dwelling, is its unusual double-gabled street elevation. The two-and-a-half story weatherboard frame structure dates to the late nineteenth century and was erected with mature cut nails that secured lightly dimensioned posts and studs. Although the house has reached an advanced stage of deterioration, enough of its essential features remain intact to state that it once was one of the largest and most imposing dwellings to stand in this historic black community. The single-pile main block is augmented by a two-story, two-part service wing. Typical exterior finishes for the late nineteenth century structure are pointed arch attic windows and plain weatherboard siding

The house and the road that it faces is named after James E. Moore, who purchased several adjacent parcels of land in Upper Hill during the period between 1911 and 1915. Due to the late nineteenth century features of the house it is estimated that the house, or at least a portion of it, was standing at the time of the transfers to Moore. The property passed from James Moore to his widow, Bessie L. Moore, in December 1944, and she retained ownership for the following twenty-two years.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: JAMES MOORE HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-466

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):
INDUSTRIAL/URBAN DOMINANCE
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s):
Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. S-466
Magi No.
DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JAMES MOORE HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number East side of Jim Moore Road ☐ not for publication
city, town Upper Hill ☐ vicinity of congressional district First
state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Hugh G. Waters
street & number P. O. Box 138 telephone no.:
city, town Cheswold state and zip code Delaware 19936

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 425
street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 800
city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-466

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☒ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The James Moore house is located on the east side of Jim Moore Road on the eastern edge of the historic black community of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The dilapidated two-story, three-bay frame dwelling faces west with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dating to the late nineteenth century, this two-and-a-half story center hall, single-pile frame dwelling has reached a ruinous state and has been partially stripped of weatherboards. Supported on a low brick pier foundation, the two-and-a-half story house is partially sheathed with asbestos shingles, and the medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-part, stepped service wing.

The west (main) elevation is a basically symmetrical three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking window openings that are missing their sash. The second floor is defined by three window openings that have lost their sash as well. The gable roof is dominated by a pair of cross gables pierced by pointed arch attic windows. Centrally located between the pair of gables is a hole that indicates the former location of a brick chimney stack.

The north and south ends of the main block are defined by a single window opening on each floor, and one window on the partially dismantled south wall retains a louvered shutter.

The east wall of the house is partially covered by a two-story, two-part service wing that remains in better condition than the front portion.

The interior of the main block is plainly finished with sawn lath and plaster walls and board surrounds that frame the window and door openings. The mantels have been stripped from the house. Exposed framing members indicate the structure was built with mature cut nails.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-466

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Distinctive to the James Moore house, a two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame dwelling, is its unusual double-gabled street elevation. The two-and-a-half story weatherboard frame structure dates to the late nineteenth century and was erected with mature cut nails that secured lightly dimensioned posts and studs. Although the house has reached an advanced stage of deterioration, enough of its essential features remain intact to state that it once was one of the largest and most imposing dwellings to stand in this historic black community. The single-pile main block is augmented by a two-story, two-part service wing. Typical exterior finishes for the late nineteenth century structure are pointed arch attic windows and plain weatherboard siding

The house and the road that it faces is named after James E. Moore, who purchased several adjacent parcels of land in Upper Hill during the period between 1911 and 1915. (See Somerset County Land Records, SFD 59/171, WJS 68/102, WJS 68/159) Due to the late nineteenth century features of the house it is estimated that the house, or at least a portion of it, was standing at the time of the transfers to Moore. The property passed from James Moore to his widow, Bessie L. Moore, in December 1944, (Somerset County Land Record, 128/344) and she retained ownership for the following twenty-two years.

Survey No. S-466

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle scale _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
-------------------	---

organization Private Consultant

date 6 / 14 / 95

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 4 10-651-1094

city or town Westover

state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND ELECTIONS TRUST
IDHOP/DRHD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

S-466
James Moore House
Jim Moore Road
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland
Chain of title

425/800 Charles L. Muir

to

12/15/1994 Hugh G. Waters

335/791 Lula M. Gross, Prince Georges County, MD

to

4/3/1982 Don E. Richardson

235/235 Bessie L. Moore, widow

to

10/27/1966 Lula M. Gross

1 7/8 acres

128/344 Stetson M. Wicks
Bank of Crisfield

to

12/21/1944 Bessie L. Moore

JMT 115/43 L. Creston Beauchamp, trustee

to

5/20/1938 Stetson M. Wicks
all that property conveyed to James E. Moore
by four (4) deeds

S-466

Page 2

James Moore House
Upper Hill, Maryland
Chain of title continued

1. from George A. Cox 11/6/1911
SFD 59/171
2. from Emanuel J. Waters 2/24/1915
WJS 68/102
3. from George A. Cox 3/24/1915
WJS 68/159
4. from Robert H. Jones (no deed reference)

Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson

Atlas 1877



MILES, AVERY & CO., Fruit and Vegetable Packers, and Dealers in General Merchandise, consisting in part of a full and complete stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Fancy Articles, Ready-made Clothing, Cloths, Cassimeres, Shirts, Collars, Bows, Ties, Gloves, Suspenders, and other Articles to complete a gentleman's dress for all seasons of the year. Also, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles, Cans, Brushes, Perfumery, Garden Seeds, &c. A full and complete stock always on hand. Don't forget the place, and give them a call.

W. H. FORD & BRO., Oyster Packers and Dealers
in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, Boots, Shoes.
Hats, Caps, Hardware, and General Merchandise.
Lower Fairmount.

Dr. E. S. MILES, Physician and Surgeon.
B. K. GREEN, Physician and Surgeon.

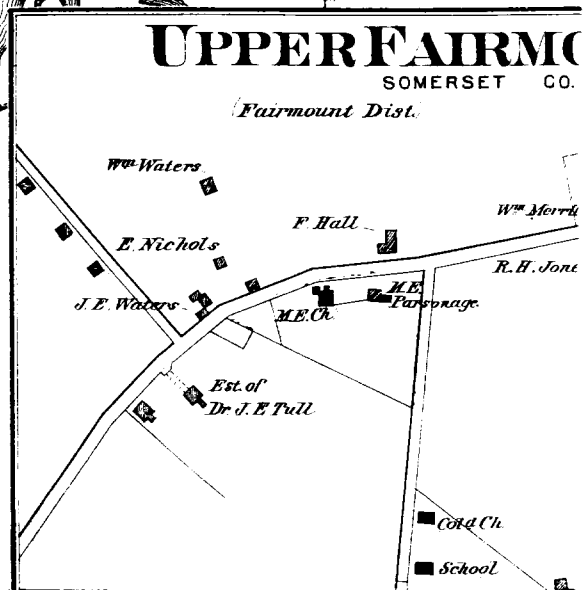
B. K. GREEN, Dealer in General Merchandise, such as Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Hats, Boots, Shoes, Notions, and all goods suitably for sale.

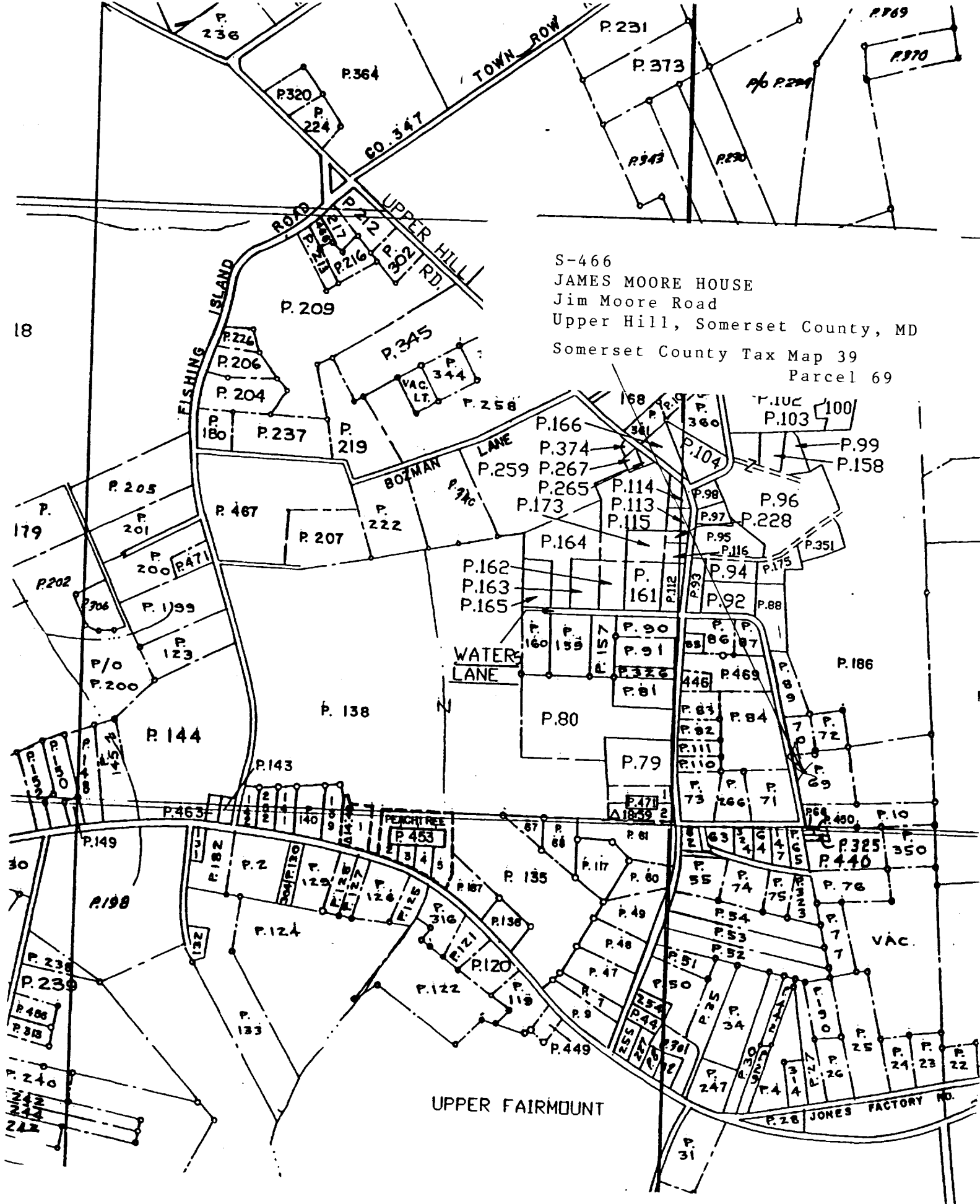
W. S. LONG, Dealer in Hardware, Tinware, Groceries, Notions, &c. Store near Westover, Md.

JOSEPH GILPIN offers a fine farm of 410 acres
for sale. Westover.

Dist. No. 6

SOMERSET CO.





S-466
JAMES MOORE HOUSE
Jim Moore Road
Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD
Somerset County Tax Map 39
Parcel 69

MARION QUADRAI
MARYLAND—SOMERS'
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTOI

5860 III NE
(MONIE)

429

430

47'30"

431

1 150 000 FEET

432

433

S-466

JAMES MOORE HOUSE

Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

Marion, Maryland Quadrangle, 1972





S- 466

James Moore House

Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

West Elevation

6/95, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEC. / MD Historical Trust

4